EC 101
Eligibility Center Webinar for High School Administrators
February 2020

Presented by:

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AGENDA

- What is the Eligibility Center?
- Eligibility Center Registration.
- Initial-Eligibility Standards and Test Score Submission.
- High School Review.
- Preliminary and Final Academic Evaluations.
- Sports Participation and Amateurism Certification.
- Best Practices.
- Resources.
THE ELIGIBILITY CENTER
WHAT IS THE NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER?

The EC evaluates and certifies college-bound student-athletes for competition at Divisions I and II schools.

Students who want to compete at NCAA Division I or Division II schools need to meet:

- Academic initial-eligibility requirements.
- Amateurism requirements.

We focus on:

- Academic preparedness.
- Sports participation.
- High school courses.
- Customer service.
WHAT IS THE NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER?

- 200,000 college-bound student-athlete accounts annually.
- 100,000 Certification accounts.
- 8,000 international students.
- 20,000 high school calls.
- 1,100 member schools and universities.
- 32,000 high schools, with 29,200+ cleared.
WHO IS THE NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER?

The EC is comprised of two units: External Affairs and Internal Operations. Between these two departments, there are six core departments:

- Core Processing.
- High School Review.
- Operations and Analytics.
- Academic and Amateurism Review.
- Customer Service.
- Outreach and Strategic Partnerships.
ELIGIBILITY CENTER REGISTRATION
 Students can register for a Certification account or Profile Page at eligibilitycenter.org to begin the process to becoming an NCAA student-athlete.
TWO ACCOUNT TYPES

Profile Page
- Students who are not being actively recruited.
- Division III students.
- Free!
- Account information and school history.
- Will not receive an academic or amateurism certification.
- Can transition to a Certification account at any time.

Certification Account
- Division I or Division II students.
- Account Fee:
  - Domestic fee $90.
  - International fee $150.
  - Fee waivers.
- Account information, school and sports history.
- Required for signing a National Letter of Intent (NLI) with any NCAA Division I or Division II school.
- Required to go on an official visit to any NCAA Division I or Division II school.
INITIAL-ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS AND TEST SCORE SUBMISSION
To play Division I sports, students need to meet the following academic requirements:

- Complete 16 NCAA-approved core courses in the correct subject distribution.
- Graduate high school on time.
- Earn a minimum core-course GPA of 2.300.
- Earn a combined SAT or ACT sum score that matches their core-course GPA on the Division I sliding scale.

*Full sliding scale research between the new SAT and ACT is ongoing.
Division II initial-eligibility academic requirements can be found in the Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete.
DIVISION I: CORE COURSES

- **ENGLISH**: 4 years
- **MATH (Algebra I or higher)**: 3 years
- **NATURAL/PHYSICAL SCIENCE (Including one year of lab, if offered)**: 2 years
- **ADDITIONAL (English, math, or natural/physical science)**: 1 year
- **SOCIAL SCIENCE**: 2 years
- **ADDITIONAL COURSES (Any area listed to the left, foreign language or comparative religion/philosophy)**: 4 years

- The following must be completed by the start of the student’s seventh semester in high school:
  - Ten NCAA-approved core courses from their school’s list in the appropriate subjects.
  - Seven of the 10 courses must be in English, math or science.

How to plan your high school courses to meet the 16 core-course requirement: 

- **9th Grade**
  - (1) English
  - (1) Math
  - (1) Science
  - (1) Social Science and/or additional
  - 4 Core Courses

- **10th Grade**
  - (1) English
  - (1) Math
  - (1) Science
  - (1) Social Science and/or additional
  - 4 Core Courses

- **11th Grade**
  - (1) English
  - (1) Math
  - (1) Science
  - (1) Social Science and/or additional
  - 4 Core Courses

- **12th Grade**
  - (1) English
  - (1) Math
  - (1) Science
  - (1) Social Science and/or additional
  - 4 Core Courses

$4 \times 4 = 16$
In performing an academic certification, there are four possible academic outcomes for student-athletes:

- Early Academic Qualifier.
- Qualifier.
- Academic Redshirt.
- Nonqualifier.
DIVISION I: EARLY ACADEMIC QUALIFIER

If a student meets specific criteria after six semesters of high school, they may be deemed an early academic qualifier for Division I and may practice, compete and receive an athletics scholarship during their first year of enrollment.

To be an early academic qualifier, a student will need:

- Minimum SAT combined score (math and critical reading) of 980 or minimum ACT sum score of 75.
- A core-course GPA of 3.000 or higher in a minimum of 14 core courses:
  - Three years of English.
  - Two years of math.
  - Two years of science.
  - Two additional years of English, math or natural/physical science.
  - Five additional core courses in any area.
DIVISION I: QUALIFIER

DI qualifiers are eligible to practice, compete and receive athletics aid their first year of college enrollment.

Qualifiers meet the standards of:

- 16 core courses in the correct subjects.
- 10/7 core-course progression.
- Minimum core-course GPA of 2.300.
- Combined SAT or ACT sum score that matches their core-course GPA on the sliding scale.
DIVISION I: REDSHIRT

- DI redshirts are eligible to practice and receive athletics their first academic term but cannot compete.

- They must pass nine semester hours (eight quarter hours) their first academic term to continue practicing the rest of the year.

- Redshirts meet the standards of:
  - 16 core courses.
  - Minimum core-course GPA of 2.000 to 2.299.
  - Combined SAT or ACT sum score that matches their core-course GPA on the sliding scale.
  - They may use courses that were retaken during their senior year if they failed to meet the required 10 core course before their senior year.
DIVISION I: NONQUALIFIER

- DI nonqualifiers are not eligible to practice, compete or receive athletics aid their first year.
Students may take the SAT or ACT as many times as they wish.

Students should use code 9999 when registering to send all scores directly to the EC.

We will use their best score to certify them:
- SAT combined score.
- ACT sum score.

Students test score(s) and GPA will be matched on our sliding scales.

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**TEST SCORES**

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core GPA</th>
<th>SAT*</th>
<th>ACT Sum*</th>
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<tr>
<td>3.550</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>37</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.525</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.775</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Full sliding scale research between the new SAT and ACT is ongoing.
Students may take the SAT or ACT as many times as they wish.

Students should use code 9999 when registering to send all scores directly to the EC.

We will use their best score to certify them:
- SAT combined score.
- ACT sum score.

Students test score(s) and GPA will be matched on our sliding scales.

Division II sliding scale is available in the Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete.
Test scores are matched to your student-athlete’s account based on name and date of birth. If your student-athlete registers with the Eligibility Center with a different name than how they registered for the SAT/ACT (e.g., Tom vs. Thomas), the test score will not automatically match.
CERTIFICATION SEQUENCE

- Where does High School Review fit?

Student-Athlete Account

On an IRL?

High School Approved?

Academic Certification

Amateurism Certification

Certification Decision

*if desired; membership driven*

Post-certification Review
HIGH SCHOOL ACCOUNT REVIEW

Documentation requested for a new high school or program:

- Course catalog.
- Academic calendar.
- Master schedule.
- Official transcript grading scale.
- Sample of student transcript.
- Transcript key.
- Required policies.
## High School Account Status

### Account Status Type

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Account Status Type</th>
<th>May approved core courses be used?</th>
<th>May proof of graduation be used?</th>
<th>Description (Please review the Additional Information box below as it may contain other important information about this account.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cleared</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Courses and proof of graduation may be used in the initial-eligibility certification process. Some CLEARED accounts may have coursework that does not meet NCAA core-course legislation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pending Individual Review</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>The use of courses in the initial-eligibility certification process is pending individual review. Proof of graduation may be used in the initial-eligibility certification process.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Cleared</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Courses and proof of graduation may not be used in the initial-eligibility certification process.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Review</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Courses and proof of graduation may not be used in the initial-eligibility certification process at this time. Upon rendering of a decision, courses and proof of graduation may or may not be used in the initial-eligibility certification process, depending on account status.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suspended</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>This account did not complete the review process. To determine if courses and proof of graduation may be used in the initial-eligibility certification process, this account must complete the review process. This account may resume its review by contacting the NCAA Eligibility Center.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>This account is no longer in operation. Please review the Additional Information and List of NCAA Courses for details regarding use of courses and proof of graduation in the initial-eligibility certification process.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>This account has not been reviewed. To determine if courses and proof of graduation may be used in the initial-eligibility certification process, this account must complete the review process.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Applicable</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>An account status is not applicable for this account. Courses and proof of graduation may not be used in the initial-eligibility certification process.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Withdrawn</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>This account has opted out of the review process. Courses and proof of graduation may not be used in the initial-eligibility certification process. This account may resume its review by contacting the NCAA Eligibility Center.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CORE COURSE REVIEW

- Schools submit courses through the High School Portal and receive one of three responses:
  - Approved By Title Alone.
  - Denied.
  - Additional Information Needed.
When additional information is requested, high schools should submit the following:

- Course description.
- Unit-by-unit or week-by-week outline of the course.
- Flowchart of all courses in the subject area.
- Assignments and assessments (e.g., midterm, final exam, cumulating project, etc.).
NONTRADITIONAL COURSE REVIEW

Courses must:

- Meet NCAA core-course requirements and be on an NCAA-approved core-course list.

- Be completed through an approved nontraditional program.
  
  • Have ongoing and regular teacher-initiated interaction for the purposes of teaching, evaluating and providing assistance throughout the duration of the course.
  
  • Have a defined time period for completion.
HIGH SCHOOL TASKING

- Can be assigned to high schools or districts.
- Can be specific to a high school-, district- or college-bound student-athlete.
- Primary and secondary contacts receive task emails.
- Tasks responses are uploaded via the High School Portal.
- Once tasks are marked complete, they are reviewed by the High School Review team.
  - New tasks will be assigned if more information is needed.
HIGH SCHOOL REVIEW
SERVICE STANDARDS

Account Review
10 business days after RTP

Program Review
10 business days after HS task response date

Core Course Title Submission/Re-submission
5 days after HS submission

High School Tasks
10 business days after HS response date

Home School Review
10 business days after tasks are closed AND student is designated as home school
HOME SCHOOL

Documents required for home school students:

- Home school transcript.
- Core-course worksheet.
  - A worksheet is required for every core course taken!
- Proof of graduation.
- Administrator and Accordance Statement.

Review the Home School Toolkit for more details on the home school process.
Taking online or virtual nontraditional courses does not necessarily mean a student is home schooled. If the parent or tutor teaches the courses, the student is likely home schooled.
PRELIMINARY AND FINAL ACADEMIC EVALUATIONS
**PRELIMINARY AND FINAL EVALUATIONS**

- Ready to Process
  - IRL activation.
  - All transcripts.
  - Test scores.
  - Proof of graduation (final).

- Additional information may be required in the form of a task in the student athlete’s EC account.
  - Text messaging.
PRELIMINARY AND FINAL EVALUATIONS

- Ready to Process
  - IRL activation.
  - All transcripts.
  - Test scores.
  - Proof of graduation (final).

- Additional information may be required in the form of a task in the student athlete’s EC account.
  - Text messaging.
SPORTS PARTICIPATION

- When students register with the NCAA Eligibility Center for a Certification account, they must:
  - Select the sport(s) they would like to play in college.
  - Complete questions about sports participation.
  - Update their information frequently if they play for multiple teams or attend events outside the traditional high school setting.
  - Request final amateurism certification before they enroll full time at a Division I or Division II school.

*Note:* Over 94 percent of students don’t require additional amateurism questions from the NCAA Eligibility Center after they request final amateurism.
In general, amateurism requirements do not allow:

- Contracts with professional teams.
- Salary for participating in athletics.
- Prize money above actual and necessary expenses.
- Play with professionals.
- Tryouts, practice or competition with a professional team.
- Benefits from an agent or prospective agent.
- Agreement to be represented by an agent.
- Delayed initial full-time collegiate enrollment to participate in organized sports competition.
Only students on an NCAA Division I or Division II school’s institutional request list will receive a certification.
BEST PRACTICES YEAR-ROUND

- Maintain your school’s list of NCAA-approved core courses to ensure it is accurate and up-to-date.
- Validate student registration fee waivers (when applicable) via the High School Portal.
- Respond to requests for more information from the NCAA Eligibility Center as needed.
- Be familiar with information on students with documented education-impacting disabilities, which can be found on the High School Portal.
- Continue to emphasize the importance of academic performance at every step of the student’s high school career – grade nine counts!
- Stay up-to-date on EC news by following @NCAAEC on Twitter.
**BEST PRACTICES**

**Annually – Fall**

- Ensure any nontraditional programs (credit recovery, virtual or online courses, etc.) offered at your school have been reviewed. Contact the EC Customer Service team to discuss your programs and initiate a review at 877-622-2321.

**Annually – Spring**

- At the end of each semester, upload official transcripts to your student-athlete’s EC account via the High School Portal.
  - Critical: At the end of the students’ sixth semester (junior year) and when they graduate from high school.
If you or your students have questions about actions that could impact their eligibility, call the Eligibility Center legislative line at 317-917-6008.
HOW CAN WE HELP YOU?
WHAT CAN YOU DO IN THE PORTAL?

EVERYTHING!
RESOURCES

- **High School Newsletter**
  - Monthly.
  - Direct to your inbox!
  - Updates, latest news.
  - Sign up using the QR code (available again at the end of the webinar).

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**High School Newsletter**

February 2020

**High School Survey**

*Your feedback is important to us!* Our High School Survey is open now until March 31. Please take a few moments to complete the survey. We want to know more about your interactions with our staff and processes, as well as give you the opportunity to provide us with information on any difficult cases you had last year and what we can do to better assist you.

[Click here to take the High School Survey](#)

**Upcoming EC Webinar**

*Are you new to initial eligibility?* Want a quick refresher on EC procedures and resources? Have a new colleague on staff looking for EC information?

Join us for our EC 101 webinar on Thursday, February 20 at 2 p.m. Eastern time.

**WEBINAR**

Join by phone:

- Meeting number (access code): 801 717 543
- Meeting password: EC101

**Name, Image and Likeness**

The NCAA has released a new resource to help explain the current status of the name, image and likeness legislation along with a potential timeline for proposed legislative changes. Please share this with coaches and student-athletes who have questions. The NCAA will continue to provide updates at ncaa.org/NIL as the process moves forward.
RESOURCES

▶ Counselor Resources
  ▶ Guide for High School Counselors.
  ▶ Guide to International Academic Standards.
  ▶ High School Counselor Quick Tips.

▶ Student Resources
  ▶ Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete.
  ▶ Initial-Eligibility Brochure.
  ▶ DI Academic Requirements.
  ▶ DII Academic Requirements.
  ▶ Website Registration Checklist.
THANK YOU

Contact the NCAA Eligibility Center:

- 877-622-2321.
- 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Eastern, Monday through Friday.

- ec-processing@ncaa.org – Document submission only.
- ec-international@ncaa.org – International account inquiries.
- ecupdate@ncaa.org – Webinar suggestions.
- Please watch your inbox for a survey and webinar link (on High School Portal).